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|---|----------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number   | 10/688,459             |           |
|   | Filing Date          | October 17, 2003       |           |
|   | First Named Inventor | Frank Clark            |           |
|   | Art Unit             | 3731                   |           |
|   | Examiner Name        | Not Yet Assigned       |           |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 51                   | Attorney Docket Number | PA1519 US |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)  |   |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group                            |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 |   |  |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |   |
|--|---|
| Firm or Individual name                    | Catherine C. Maresh; Medtronic Vascular, Inc. |
| Signature                                  | <i>Catherine C. Maresh</i>                    |
| Date                                       | Jan 16, 2004                                  |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING  |                          |              |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. Washington, DC 20231 on this date: |                          |              |
| Typed or printed name  | Arlyn L. Brediger        |              |
| Signature  | <i>Arlyn L. Brediger</i> | Date 1/16/04 |

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Frank Clark

Appl. No. 10/688,459

Filed: 10-17-2003

For: **Improved Packaging for Stents and  
Stent Delivery System**

Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Atty. Docket: PA1519 US

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER RULE 1.56**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant(s) herein make available to the Patent and Trademark Office a copy of Form PTO-1449, and a copy of each cited reference is enclosed. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with the following provision(s):

- ☒ 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1) Within three months of the filing date of the national application. No fee is required.
- ☐ 37 CFR 1.97(b)(2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in the international application. No fee is required.
- ☐ 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3) Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No fee is required.
- ☐ 37 CFR 1.97(c) After the periods specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of either: (1) a final action under § 1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first.

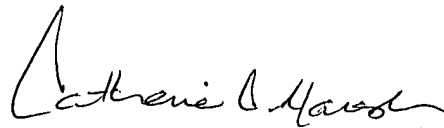
- ☒ [X] The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed, citing the references; or
- ☐ [ ] The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; or
- ☐ [ ] Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180.00 for the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2525.
- ☐ [ ] Applicant(s) hereby petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to consider this information disclosure statement. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$130.00 for the petition fee set forth in § 1.17(i)(1). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2525.

The listed documents are brought to the Examiner's attention because they are known to the applicant and/or the applicant's attorney and may be considered by the Examiner to be material to his/her examination. This listing should not be construed as representation that a search has been made or that no better art exists. No inference should be made that the documents are in fact material merely because they are referenced herein. Moreover, no representation is made that any brief descriptions of the references herein necessarily describe the most material aspects of the references. Further, by this listing, the applicant is not making any admission regarding the relative dates of the invention and listed disclosures.

The Examiner is requested to consider carefully the complete text of these documents in connection with the examination of the above-identified application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104(a). It is requested that the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be included in the "References Cited" portion of any patent issuing from this application (M.P.E.P. 1302.12), and that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the form to evidence consideration of the documents.

Dated: January 16, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine C. Maresh", written over a horizontal line.

Catherine C. Maresh  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

Sheet

1

of

1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number

10/688.459

Filing Date

10/17/2003

First Named Inventor

**Frank Clark**

**Art Unit**

3731

Examiner Name

**Not Yet Assigned**

Attorney Docket Number

PA1519 US

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
|                    |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |                |
|                    |                       | EP 0492399 A2   | 07/01/1992                     | Abbott Laboratories                                |   |                |
|                    |                       | EP 0782868 A1   | 07/09/1997                     | Schneider (Europe) AG                              |   |                |
|                    |                       | WO 9747349 A1   | 12/18/1997                     | Astra Aktiebolag                                   |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                                |  |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                                |  |   |                |

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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